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Workers of the World, Unite !

THE MILITANT

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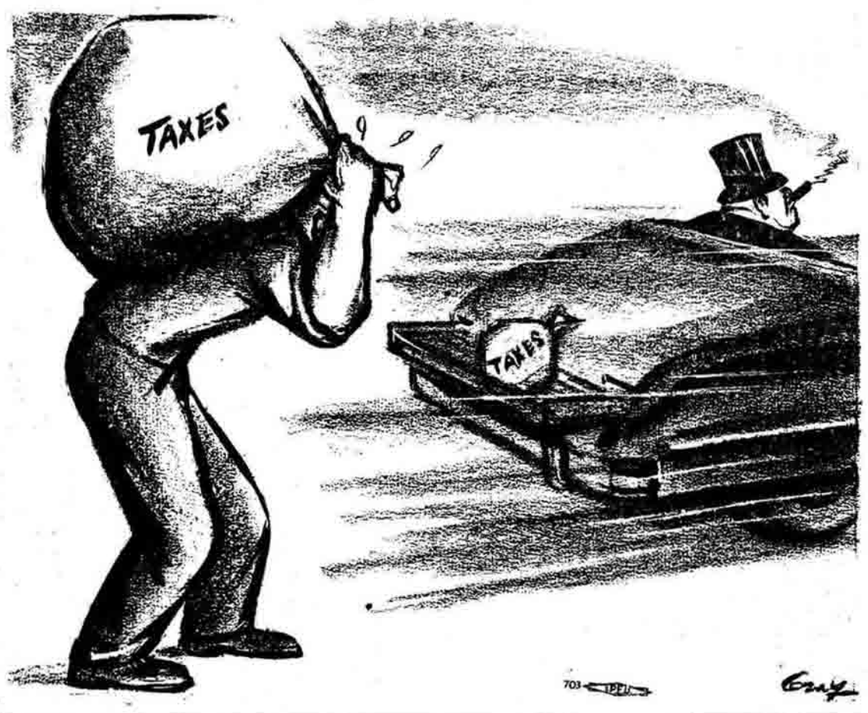
Pay-as-You-Go



Probe Links Auto Firm To Gangster Terrorism

'JAIL COMPANY HEADS,' URGES WOMAN VICTIM

By George Lavan

"I want to see the gunmen of the Renda-Perrone gang and the officers of the Briggs Corporation, who hired them, brought to trial and punished for the merciless beatings of myself and the other union representatives." These words were the reaction of Genora Johnson Dollinger, veteran United Automobile Workers-CIO leader, whose beating made headlines in 1945 and has now been re-opened by the revelations of the Senate Crime Committee's hearings in Detroit.

"The Senate Committee findings in Detroit not only clear up the so-called mysterious beatings of Briggs Unionists but will, if followed through, also shed light on the murder attempts on Walter and Victor Reuther," Mrs. Dollinger added as she explained about the Briggs-Renda contract, netting the gangsters as much as $103,000 in a single year.

Mrs. Dollinger, a slim, pretty woman, whose vivacity belied the suffering she has undergone, explained that in a period of 15 months there had been five brutal beatings of leading members of UAW-CIO Local 212.

ORGANIZED TERROR

"We didn't realize until after the third beating that there was an organized terror campaign on against the union. We thought the first two were isolated affairs. But when Roy Snowden, the Sergeant-At-Arms and a militant famous throughout Michigan, was beaten a second time we realized what was up. The local elected an investigating committee which I was on. Among other things we went to the International Union Office to get a substantial reward offered for information. We spoke with R. J. Thomas, then the president, and also with Walter Reuther. Reuther thought that the treasury couldn't afford it. I said, 'Listen, Walter, this is a gang of professionals doing the beatings. If it isn't nipped in the bud it can spread, can come right up here into the Internationale.' Reuther said 'Now, Genora, lets not be dramatic about this.' So we didn't get a substantial reward posted. Five years later when Walter Reuther was nearly killed in the shotgun attempt on him I realized how prophetic my words had been."

BEATEN IN HER HOME

"Just before dawn on Oct. 16, 1945 Briggs Corporation's sluggers broke into my home. We lived on the first floor of an apartment building. They came in through the back door from the alley. I heard footsteps coming towards my room. I thought it was one of my sons — thought that something was the matter. I had half raised up in bed when a flashlight was turned on my face for a moment. I made out two men. One had his hand in his pocket as if he had a gun there. Then the light was snapped off and I was hit in the face with a piece of lead pipe or a blackjack. They continued beating me about the head, then the arms and then the legs. This was the professional style of beating shown in the other attacks on Briggs Unionists. They hit you on the arms so you can't strike back or try to ward off the blows, then they hit your legs so you can't run after them. I was beaten unconscious. My husband woke up and tried to hit them but they blackjacked him on the hands and feet.

"By the time the thugs had run out into the back alley where their car was waiting, my son was up and called for an ambulance. I was rushed to the receiving hospital all covered with blood and in terrible agony. My collar bone was broken and a brain injury resulted in paralysis of all one side of me. Fortunately this paralysis proved temporary. I was a month in the hospital and seven weeks in a cast. And it was

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GENORA DOLLINGER

Bring GIs Home, Say 75% in Poll By Detroit Paper

By Patricia Stall

DETROIT — In a public opinion poll recently conducted by the Detroit Free Press, the people of Detroit echoed the nationwide cry, "Bring the boys back home!"

Truman's big talk and expensive plans for all-out mobilization didn't carry much weight with the Detroiters who participated in the survey. **Three-fourths of those questioned favored withdrawal of troops from Korea as quickly as possible. Seventy-four per cent voted against the proposition that U.S. troops stay there until a Korean government chosen by the people is set up.**

In reply to the question, "Should we drop the A-bomb now and take chances on reprisal?" 79 per cent voted no.

WITHSTAND PROPAGANDA

The outstanding fact about these figures is that they represent the sentiments of Free Press readers, who have been barraged by pro-war, anti-red propaganda. The poll was extended for an additional week in the hope that readers who disagreed with the first results would flood the mails with support for the Korean war, but the extra week only substantiated the fact that the Detroit public is overwhelmingly opposed to the intervention in Korea.

The charge is made that demands printed in The Militant to stop the Korean war now, are solely in the interests of "nonconformists." But this recent poll proves that the demands, "bring the troops back home!" represents the true feelings of the mothers, fathers and wives of soldiers fighting and dying on the Korean battleground. Such papers as the Free Press speak for the warmongers. The Militant speaks for the people.

Briggs Hired Mobsters Who Brutally Beat 4 Unionists, Ex-Company Official Admits

By Dave Lands

The auto barons are employing the lowest scum of the underworld to intimidate and brutally assault union men and women and wreck the unions, it was revealed last week in Detroit hearings conducted by the Senate Crime Investigating Committee (Kefauver Committee).

In the course of this Senate rackets-investigation, the "respectable" auto industrialists have been linked with a plot to protect their profits by hiring gangsters to commit violence against workers.

Not since the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee investigations in 1937 has the truth been told about the unremitting war of the auto corporations against unionism. At those hearings it was revealed that in 1936 the big corporations, including 28 automobile companies, spent $80,000,000 on the labor spy racket.

A CONSPIRACY

The Kefauver Committee held only a hasty two-day open hearing. But this was sufficient to expose the conspiracy between the Briggs Manufacturing Company and a gang of thugs hired in 1945 to beat up union workers.

The 1945 beatings suffered by the pioneer auto union builder Genora Dollinger, Michigan Trotskyist leader, and three other union militants, have now been definitely traced to the Briggs Company which in 1945 hired a notorious gangster for anti-union work under cover of a million dollar contract to collect scrap.

The committee hearing established through testimony of former company officials that Carl Renda, son-in-law of the gangster Sam Perrone, was given the scrap-hauling concession despite the fact that the company lost $14,000 a month by its terms. The contract was awarded following a series of walkouts at the Briggs plant. The beatings which extended over a period of 15 months, began shortly after the thugs were given the phony contract.

WRECK A UNION

Emil Mazey, who testified for the UAW-CIO, said that union organizers and members were so badly beaten and intimidated at the Michigan Stove Company works that the local union was dissolved. The same Perrone, whose son-in-law was hired by Briggs, was employed by the stove works for anti-union strong-arm work.

In his statement Mazey said he hoped the committee would work to uncover evidence which might solve the shootings of Walter and Victor Reuther. The exposure of the connection between Briggs and Perrone strengthens the belief that the Reuther attacks were company-inspired. But the committee refused to pursue the matter.

"During our first efforts to organize our union," Mazey said, "we were continuously and forcibly attacked by organized gangs of hoodlums and criminals who repeatedly acted as muscle-men for the benefit of anti-union employers." Mazey cited specifically the bloody Battle of the Overpass

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Truman Breaks Strike, Protects Rail Profiteers

By Art Preis

Truman last week continued his efforts to qualify as the world's champion strikebreaker and the most anti-labor president in U.S. history. At the bidding of the profiteering railroad corporations, he smashed his fifth railroad strike in less than five years and the third since he began his "police action" in Korea.

He ordered the Army to break the strike of 12,000 switchmen, who tied up 52 lines and terminals in 67 cities for 10 days, "no matter what action is necessary." The switchmen, members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, have been the militant spearhead of the 800,000 operating employees in the four Railroad Brotherhoods who have been waging a two-year struggle for a 40-hour week with the same take-home pay as they have been receiving for 48 hours at straight time.

FORCED LABOR

Assistant Secretary of the Army Karl R. Bendetsen, nominal head of the nation's railroads since Truman "seized" them last August to block a scheduled general strike, served an ultimatum to the strikers to return to forced labor under military command within 48 hours or be fired "with consequent loss of all seniority rights."

The "Army" that actually dictated this order consists of seven railroad presidents whom Truman commissioned as colonels who have exercised a military dictatorship over the railroad workers for the past six months. Aided by this "Army" control, net profits of the country's major railroads soared to $662 million in the first 11 months of 1950 compared to $352 million in the corresponding period of 1949.

The order threatening to replace the strikers with scabs also offered a bit of enticement — a "temporary" wage increase, retroactive to Oct. 1 and subject to change when a final settlement is reached, of 12½ cents hourly for 120,000 yardmen and five cents for 180,000 road service workers. This is just half of the last government offer made during the three-day "wildcat" walkout of switchmen last December. The union ranks rejected that offer because it did not meet their just demand for a 40-hour week, with no loss in take-home pay, won by a million non-operating railroad workers two years ago.

But the bit of "carrot" that was offered along with the club further exposed the fraud of Truman's stand. If the Army has power to institute a 12½c pay increase, it could have granted the workers' full demands. If Truman was so disturbed by the effect of the strike on the "national emergency," he could have ordered some of the profits-fat sliced off the corporations for the benefit of the workers.

After courageously defying for nine days the government "seizure" and a flock of federal "contempt" citations for ignoring injunctions in effect since their

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PACKINGHOUSE UNIONS WIN PAY RISE WITH STRIKE VOTE

After the United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO prepared to back up its wage demands with strike action, the Big Three packing companies, Swift, Armour and Cudahy, agreed to a nine cents an hour general wage increase.

The wage hike is subject to the approval of the Wage Stabilization Board set up under the Truman emergency declaration.

The union announced that if the board did not give its approval they would "have to resume the struggle with the packing companies for a decent wage." Representatives from 250 local CIO unions gave "full power to take strike action if necessary" to the union executive board.

The pay increase was granted both to the CIO and the AFL Amalgamated Union of Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, which have been cooperating on the wage fight.

This wage proposal came after a series of regional walkouts and sitdowns, and a demonstration of strike preparation by the union. Until the agreement was announced, the packing companies had refused to bargain on the grounds that the wage policy of the government was not clear.

The capitulation of the companies is clearly the result of the militant stand taken by the union. For example, 350 officers and stewards of the packing plants in South St. Paul in a meeting, recalled how "the little steel formula of World War II caused substandard wages," and declared they "will fight with every weapon at their command against a wage stabilization policy that will again freeze wages while a price 'freeze' guarantees exorbitant profits."

Dubois, Noted Scholar, Indicted For Talking Peace

Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, outstanding American historian and Negro leader, for many years editor of the NAACP magazine, Crisis, was indicted Feb. 9th along with four other officers of the Peace Information Center, for failure to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Dr. DuBois has been an active supporter of the Stalinist "peace offensive" which diverts the genuine desire for peace into the harmless dead end of pacifism; but the real purpose of the indictment is to terrorize all Americans and brand even expressions of popular opinion for peace as "subversive" and "alien."

The Peace Information Center had been disbanded several months ago when the government demanded that it register.

This indictment is another step toward a police state and the suppression of civil liberties in the U.S. as a necessary part of the mobilization plans and all-out war preparations. It must be fought by all who would preserve our civil rights.

How to Decide The War Issue

An Editorial

Do the American people want to stop the war in Korea now and bring the U.S. troops back at once? The **N. Y. World-Telegram**, chief newspaper of the ultra-reactionary Scripps-Howard chain, claims that there is no overwhelming popular sentiment to "bring the boys home from Korea" — that it's all part of a "Commie" plot in the "phony peace drive" of the Stalinists.

Frederick Woltman, the **World-Telegram's** specialist in "exposure" of "Communist fronts," on Feb. 10 wrote that the "Communist party last week stepped up its 'Bring the boys home from Korea' drive" and that "the party faithful throughout the country were busy collecting off-hand comments, interviews and straw polls that could be twisted into a cascade of national sentiment for 'peace.'"

Far be it from us to take responsibility for anything the Stalinist **Daily Worker** prints. Nor do we have anything but complete hostility to the whole pacifist, anti-socialist line of Stalinism on imperialist war. But we challenge Woltman and Scripps-Howard when they claim that the sentiment for getting the troops out of Korea is just something "whipped up by the phony 'citizens' peace councils' emanating from the Peace Information Center, which was indicted yesterday for failing to register as foreign agents."

We brand this as a lie and a deliberate slander against the scores of millions of Americans who are dead-set against war and who if given the chance to vote on the issue would unquestionably vote overwhelmingly to withdraw the troops from Korea without delay.

Elsewhere on this page, we publish a report of the poll taken by the **Detroit Free Press** showing 75 per cent for the immediate withdrawal of troops from Korea. That's something the **Daily Worker** reported, incidentally. Is the **Free Press** — if anything, more reactionary than the **World-Telegram** — party to a "Commie" plot?

The **World-Telegram** itself, on Jan. 23, published the findings of the Gallup Poll, showing 66 per cent stating, "Yes" to the question whether the U.S. should "pull our troops out of Korea as fast as possible" and only 25 per cent who wanted the GIs to "stay there." Is that, too, just part of the "phony peace drive" of the Stalinists?

If Scripps-Howard really wants to find out the sentiments of the people, that would not be hard to do. Let a national referendum of the American people be held on the question. Let the people vote on the question of war and peace.

If Woltman and his bosses are so confident that popular sentiment is not to "bring the boys back home," certainly they should not be afraid to have it put to a nationwide vote. We are certain that that's what they are afraid of — a democratic vote of the people. It would expose those who clamor for continuing and extending the war in the Far East as an anti-democratic minority opposing the popular will.

Pennsy Profits-before-Safety Policy Kills 84 More

By Joseph Keller

Murder for profit is rampant on the Pennsylvania Railroad, whose richest directors are Pierre S. duPont, the Munitions King, and Richard K. Mellon, chief heir to the late Andrew Mellon's billion-dollar aluminum-trust fortune. During the past 12 months, 248 passengers and crew members have been killed and more than 1,000 seriously injured in train disasters on lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad or companies under its control.

Refusal to spend money for automatic safety devices and signal lights, dangerous short-cut practices, enforced violations of safety rules, decrepit and unsafe equipment, over-loading of cars and over-working of crew members have been responsible for this ghastly toll.

The latest catastrophe, which has brought a grand-jury investigation into the criminal responsibility of the Pennsylvania Railroad, snuffed out 84 lives and injured more than 500 persons on Feb 6th when an overcrowded commuters' train was derailed at Woodbridge, N. J. Five cars of the train, with hundreds of passengers standing in the aisles, hurtled off a temporary wooden trestle down a 35-foot embankment because the company had failed to provide slow-down warning signals.

Last Thanksgiving Day a passenger train of the Long Island Railroad, controlled by the Pennsy, plowed into the rear of another train, **killing 79 and injuring 330.** On Feb. 17, 1950, two LIRR trains suffered a head-on collision at Rockville Centre, L. I., bringing death to 32 and injury to more than 100. At Coshocton, O., on Sept. 11, a Pennsy train ran into a stalled troop train, slaughtering 33 soldiers and injuring more than 50. In each of these cases, automatic safety devices for halting approaching trains could have prevented tragedy.

As in these three previous disasters, the public relations men and lawyers of the billion-dollar PRR corporation hastened to throw the blame for the latest wreck on the engineer, Joseph H. Fitzimmons, 57, who has maintained a perfect safety record for 33 years. Within an hour after the accident, radio broadcasters and newspaper headlines were screaming that Fitzimmons had been "speeding" in violation of company instructions to shut the speed down to 25 miles an hour at the approach to the temporary trestle. The trestle had been opened for traffic only six hours prior to the accident.

Fortunately, Fitzimmons lived — though his ribs were smashed in — and was able to answer the company's false charges and reveal its criminal culpability in failing to provide yellow signal lights as its own book of regulations requires for such conditions. Also fortunately, the company was not able to influence or intimidate Alex Eber, assistant county prosecutor in Middlesex County, N. J.

Eber made his own investigation and issued a statement charging the company with **"a complete and indifferent disregard of human life and is to be condemned." He revealed that "we find conflicting statements made by Pennsylvania railroad authorities dealing with instructions for the engineer." He has initiated a grand jury investigation looking toward criminal indictment of the corporation and has declared "there will be no whitewash."**

WHITEWASH BY ICC

At the same time, State Deputy Attorney Gen. Van Tine of New Jersey charged that Interstate Commerce Commission hearings on the Woodbridge wreck "have been an outrage . . . a disgrace. It is obvious they're trying to whitewash the whole thing and blame it on the engineer."

As a result of the public clamor following the wrecks on the LIRR, the New York Public Service Commission brought out a report charging mismanagement by company officials and "a serious breakdown in safety practices." Until 1949, the LIRR was wholely-owned by the PRR, which milked it into a condition of bankruptcy, then threw it into receivership under which the PRR retained indirect control while it was made chief creditor.

The PRR announced on Jan. 30 that its 1950 net income of $38,420,677 more than tripled its profits in 1949. These blood-soaked profits are going into the coffers of some of the richest families in America. On the PRR's board of directors are members of the billionaire duPont and Mellon families. T. I. Parkinson, president of the Equitable Life Insurance Company and a trustee of Chase National Bank, Westinghouse Electric and Borden Milk Co. is also on the PRR board. **The officers, directors and biggest shareholders of the PRR represent a cross-section of the top ruling class in America.**

They make the policies of the PRR. They demand profits at the expense of safety. They are the ones really guilty of wholesale murder on the railroads.

An Answer to Yugoslav CP

We reprint below a declaration of the International Secretariat of the Fourth International in reply to a speech by Yugoslav Foreign Minister Kardelj delivered last month in the Yugoslav Parliament, and an interview with Tito by a United Press correspondent.

(Reprinted from La Verite, French Trotskyist periodical.)

To the Yugoslav Communist Party:

Comrades! The accusation launched by Foreign Minister Kardelj in his speech of Jan. 4, 1951 to the Yugoslav National Assembly and by Tito in his Jan. 6 interview with the correspondent of the United Press that the Trotskyists "in practise incessantly follow at the tail of Soviet foreign policy" and fight the Soviet bureaucracy in words only, calls for a reply.

The struggle of the Trotskyists against the Soviet bureaucracy and its Stalinist agents throughout the world does not begin with June 1948, the time of the break of the Yugoslav Communist Party with the Cominform. It dates from the death of Lenin and the beginning of the bureaucratic degeneration of the USSR and of the Third International. Since 1923 Trotsky and the Trotskyists raised the banner of proletarian democracy in the Soviet Union against the growing bureaucracy within the Bolshevik Party and within the country. In Russia above all, thousands upon thousands of Bolsheviks lost their lives and endured unprecedented suffering in this struggle. With Leon Trotsky and so many other leaders of the October Revolution, of the Third International at their head, they fought against the bureaucratic regime and Stalinism in the prisons, the concentration camps and in exile.

Beginning with 1934, these Bolsheviks have openly proclaimed that the proletarian masses of Russia have the mission of overthrowing Stalin's Bonapartist clique based on the bureaucracy by a new political revolution. We untiringly continue to defend this same line.

The Trotskyists alone have exposed to the working masses the crimes committed by Stalin and the Stalinist leadership in Russia itself and throughout the world against the interests of the world working class and against the international socialist revolution. They have often paid for this with their lives in many countries outside the Soviet Union, in Vietnam, Greece, Spain, France, Italy and elsewhere. Many leaders and cadres of Trotskyists have fallen under the bullets of the GPU assassins because of their attachment to the socialist revolution and for their persistent, principled, irreconcilable struggle against the bureaucracy.

Leon Trotsky, creator of the Red Army, was assassinated by the GPU for having taken the lead in this struggle for more than fifteen years.

That is why Trotskyism has become the No. 1 enemy of Stalin and of Stalinism.

It is the Trotskyists, and they alone, who have always denounced the counter-revolutionary nature of the Kremlin's foreign policy. Referring to recent years only, the Trotskyists were for a long time the only ones to denounce the crimes against the right of the peoples for selfdetermination, committed by the big conquerors of the Second World War in the Yalta and Potsdam agreements ("peace" with annexations and reparations against the German people, plunder of Eastern Europe).

It is the Trotskyists, and they alone, who since June 1948 have undertaken the defense of Yugoslavia in the international working class against the slander campaign of the Kremlin, its economic blockade and its threats of military attack. It is the Trotskyists who defended your cause in physical conflict against the attacks of Stalinists in the trade unions, the factories, at meetings. It is they, and they alone, who have everywhere promoted the first currents of sympathy for your cause in the world working class. The Trotskyist militants, by virtue of these actions on your behalf, have had to undergo a systematic campaign of assault and violence from the Stalinists, have been and are still being expelled on this account from trade unions and other organizations directed by the Stalinists.

An absolutely monstrous lack of memory and an unpardonable amount of ignorance would be needed to erase these facts and distort reality upon this point.

You who are slandered and find yourself in a relatively very weak minority in the face of the gigantic Stalinist apparatus conducted by the Kremlin, have taken truth as your banner. Then respect the truth towards a movement which does not have at its disposal your technical and financial means of defense.

If Trotskyism was a movement which capitulated before the Soviet bureaucracy, as you now pretend, present proof of it by publishing the essential texts of the policy and the history of Trotskyism in your own language, and permit this revolutionary Marxist literature to circulate freely in Yugoslavia. Do not inform your militants and the Yugoslav proletariat on questions so important for the history and reorientation of the international working class

TITO

movement by a few fragmentary phrases. Legalize Trotskyist literature in Yugoslavia. And if you find that such a financial effort is too great, our movement will, despite its limited financial resources, attempt to publish in your language by its own means the essential documents of our history and our ideological arsenal that we believe should be circulated in Yugoslavia.

Honest information, going back to the sources themselves, is the hallmark of a genuine Marxist regime and revolutionary movement.

What you represent as our so-called practical capitulation to the Soviet bureaucracy is in reality our policy of unconditional support to every struggle of the proletariat and colonial masses against their class enemies, even if these struggles are headed at the moment by Stalinists and thereby exploited by the Kremlin. Likewise involved is our very categorical refusal to share your present opinion on the manner of combatting this bureaucracy, namely, with the help of "democratic forces" other than those of the proletariat and the colonial masses. We fight against Stalinism exclusively with the forces of the proletariat and the colonial masses, from within the workers' movement, and we never entrust to imperialism and to its reformist agencies the task of punishing Stalinism for its crimes. Ours is the only possible way to lead an effective and progressive struggle against Stalinism, because we are convinced that it is only through an upsurge of the mass movement that the working class will emancipate itself, as it has done in your country, from the grip of Stalinism.

The workers and colonial masses who are still influenced by the Kremlin and its agencies will never give confidence to any of those who, in one way or another, are compromised with imperialism in a struggle against Stalinism.

Not so long ago these truths were shared between us. You are now abandoning them under pressure from the imperialists and your own difficulties. You are looking for new allies in the person of "vague democratic forces" (precisely whom?) and of the decadent Social Democracy which supports counter-revolutionary forces seeking the restoration of capitalism in your own country.

Should we interpret your accusation against us as designed to cover up a broader break with the revolutionary workers' movement which would permit an easier initiation of the new orientation outlined by the two previously-mentioned declarations toward "the democratic forces" and the reformist agencies of the bourgeoisie?

Go through your own experience. It will be bitter and disastrous. It will complete your isolation from the proletarian and colonial masses as well as from the revolutionary vanguard. And if the hour of a supreme danger should sound for Yugoslavia, if your country should find itself attacked by the Kremlin or being strangled by imperialism, your new-found "friends" will demonstrate their real value by their impotence, their cowardice, their complete inertia, if not in a cunning collaboration, either directly or indirectly, in the destruction of your revolution.

But the Trotskyists, remember this well, will come by the hundreds and form brigades much more numerous than those you sent to fight in Spain during its revolution, to defend arms in hand the conquests of the Yugoslav revolution threatened by the Kremlin or by imperialism.

They will do so on the sole condition that you decide to defend Yugoslavia with the revolutionary forces of the Yugoslav and international masses, without introducing into the struggle in Yugoslavia the imperialist armies who would likewise strangle your Revolution.

We hope that, in respect for the truth and for the workers' democracy you yourselves demand, you will make this declaration known to the members of your party and to the Yugoslav masses.

With internationalist communist greetings.

January 1951.

Truman Breaks Railroad Strike, Protects Profits of Monopolists

(Continued from Page 1)

December walkout, the strikers bowed to the Army ultimatum. They could not withstand the overwhelming government pressure because the top officials of the Brotherhoods called their strike "unauthorized," demanded their return to work and would not mobilize the unions behind the switchmen.

But the strikers returned unchastened and full of wrath. They were not moved by the lectures on "patriotism" delivered by War Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson of General Electric Corporation, which is cleaning up fabulous profits on cost-plus war contracts, and by Truman, with his $100,000 salary and $50,000 tax-exempt "expense" account. They made it clear they were yielding — temporarily — to superior force. At **one terminal, returning men wore badges with the letters "PW" — Prisoner of War.**

What galled the workers most was that Truman added slanderous insult to injury. He said at his press conference that the railroad workers had "run out" on an agreement "like a bunch of Russians." Later, he claimed he meant "just the union leaders." Some 1,500 Columbus, O., railroaders reminded Truman in a protest telegram how he had stated that Stalin "was a decent old fellow not many months ago" when he spoke of the Kremlin butcher as "good old Joe."

A spokesman for a group of Birmingham switchmen remarked bitterly, "If we could be ordered to work for a lousy 12½-cent raise, we might as well be Russians." Pittsburgh men were reported as "really sore." At the Pennsylvania station in New York one trainman was heard saying, "Don't call me George. Call me Comrade!" Expressing "shock" at Truman's slur, heads of the four Railroad Brotherhoods pointed out that in refusing the purported agreement, even if the union officials had approved it, the membership had **"exercised their democratic rights by rejecting an undesirable proposal in open voting."**

If anyone has acted like a Stalin or a Hitler it is Truman, who has imposed forced labor on the railroad workers. Indeed, Dictator Peron of Argentina justified his recent breaking of a railroad strike by Truman's example. The Buenos Aires correspondent of the **N. Y. Times** reports, "Day after day, as if it were a local story, the Peronista press has played up news of the recently ended railway strike in the United States, and the strong measures that were taken to normalize transport there."

The railroad men, many of whom have lost sons in Korea and in the last war, deeply resent Truman's using the war as a pretext for strikebreaking. They rightly ask, "Was there a war on when he broke our strike in 1946 and called for a law to draft strikers into the Army? Was there a war on in 1948 when he repeated the same dirty job on us?" They also want to know why the government doesn't compel "patriotism" from the arms manufacturers to whom the U.S. is paying vastly inflated prices and why the railroad corporations have been permitted to double their profits while the GIs are fighting and dying in Korea.

Most of the capitalist newspapers do not question the justice of the railroad workers' demands, though they demanded the harshest measures to break the strike. After the strike ended, the **N. Y. Times** hypocritically pontificated, "Let us show them (rail strikers) that even though they cannot be permitted to dictate . . . nevertheless they can have justice if they will be loyal and patient." This hint that some further concessions should be made to the workers is prompted by fear of the rail workers' "impatience."

The railroad workers have been given a run-around since March 1949, when negotiations began. For a year and a half they "loyally" and "patiently" went through all the elaborate stalling devices provided by the Railway Labor Act and then submitted to a special Truman "fact-finding" board. It was only since they have lost their "patience" that they have begun to get results.

When a strike was threatened last June, Truman's "fact-finding" board recommended an 18-cent increase. The offer was raised to 23 cents last August when a general strike date was set. The three-day "wildcat" last December pushed the offer to 25 cents, plus a cost-of-living escalator clause.

The railroad workers are in the most strategic spot in the economy. If their leaders had acted with firmness and aggressiveness — like the Mine Workers leaders who stood up against federal injunctions and led their men to a great victory last spring and commanded another big wage increase a few weeks ago — the railroad workers today would not be in 30th place on the comparative scale of industrial wages.

The great handicap of the railroad workers is leaders who won't fight, who wilt under government pressure, who keep the workers divided into numerous, and often competing, craft unions. When the railroad unions are consolidated and show they mean business, when they have leaders who issue ultimatums instead of bowing to them, then the railroad workers will regain their lost position in the top ranks of American wage-earners.

WOMAN VICTIM OF COMPANY THUGS ASKS JAIL FOR BRIGGS EXECUTIVES

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many months more before I could walk by myself."

In reply to a question Mrs. Dollinger admitted she still suffers after-effects of the beating in the form of extremely severe headaches and nervousness.

When asked about the police investigation Mrs. Dollinger laughed bitterly. "That afternoon or the next day a detective lieutenant from the Detroit police came to the hospital. I was in great pain and could hardly see him. He started grilling me as if I were the culprit instead of the victim. He insisted that I was to blame; that there was some personal angle — marital jealousy, union factions, etc. I tried to tell him about the anti-union attitude of the Briggs Corporation but he wasn't interested in that. It was torture. I begged him to stop his grilling. Finally two friends from the union came to see me and I appealed to them. Next day in the paper he was quoted as saying that 'Mrs. Dollinger clammed up as soon as two union officials came in.'

"That was the angle that the police and the newspapers took on the case. They tried to make it appear as a fight inside the union or a case of labor gangsterism. For instance the Detroit Free Press ran a big editorial entitled 'Must we have Government by Violence instead of by law?' It was against the unions and in it they wept crocodile tears over me. It was later printed up as a pamphlet and circulated by anti-labor forces throughout the country."

Mrs. Dollinger found a copy of the editorial for me. It describes in detail her beating and the states: "This is the result of an internal union row in the CIO.' It further points out she could have been killed and winds up with a demand that the authorities investigate the union and prosecute the guilty union faction.

After I had finished reading the editorial, Mrs. Dollinger said "I think I'll write the **Free Press** a letter asking them if they still feel as indignant about my beating, and whether they'll print an editorial demanding prosecution of the guilty now as they did when they were claiming it was intra-union violence."

"What do you think should be done now?" was the next question put to Mrs. Dollinger. "I want to see justice done," was her answer.

"I can think of three definite steps that should be taken. First the UAW should demand the immediate indictment of the Perrone-Renda gang, William D. Robinson, Briggs president, Walter O. Briggs and all the other corporation heads involved, for the beatings of Briggs Union members. Then the UAW should institute personal damage law suits against the Briggs Manufacturing Co. on behalf of the victimized workers. And third the UAW should start a national campaign to inform the public about the big corporations' use of gangsters, as in this case, and re-open the investigation of the Reuther shootings."

I then pointed out to Mrs. Dollinger that the Detroit newspapers were referring to her as "a veteran leader of 1937 sitdown strikes in Flint General Motors Plants" and that the Senate Crime Committee hearings had brought out that the Briggs Co. had regarded her "as a thorn in their side." "How did you happen to become so active in the labor movement," was my final question.

Her answer covered many exciting events which deserve a full article in themselves. Briefly this was the sequence. She grew up in Flint, Michigan, a GM company town. As a young girl she became interested in social questions and with a group of other youngsters took out a subscription to Oscar Ameringer's "socialist" newspaper, the **American Guardian.** After a while this group applied for a charter in the Socialist Party. In the '30s her husband, Kermit Johnson, an auto worker, was trying to organize a union in open-shop Flint. When the big sitdown started she organized the Women's Auxiliary and the Women's Emergency Brigade. Both she and her husband played leading and heroic roles in that strike. Later she became a member of the Socialist Workers Party. When she moved to Detroit she went to work in Briggs' main plant where she was chief steward of her department and vice-chairman of the Chief Stewards Body. At present she is active in the union affairs and in the Socialist Workers Party. Her plans for the future revolve about the labor and socialist movements.

Hansen Begins National Tour On World Crisis

Joseph Hansen, SWP candidate for the U.S. Senate in the 1950 New York election campaign, will make his first stop on his coast to coast Socialist Workers Party tour in New Haven, Feb. 23rd.

Hansen will speak on "America and the World Crisis." He will analyze world events since the American imperialist intervention in Korea, discussing the revolutionary upsurge in Asia, and its impact on the U.S.

As senatorial candidate of the SWP in New York, Hansen was the biggest Trotskyist vote getter. He is the author of many pamphlets, and is a regular contributor to **The Militant** and the **Fourth International.**

In the first leg of his tour he will speak in the following cities:

Friday	Feb. 23	New Haven
Saturday	24	Boston
Sunday	25	"
Monday	26	Travel
Tuesday	27	Buffalo
Wednesday	28	"
Thursday	Mar. 1	"
Friday	2	"
Saturday	3	Akron
Sunday	4	Cleveland
Monday	5	"
Tuesday	6	Travel
Wednesday	7	Travel
Thursday	8	Chicago
Friday	9	"
Saturday	10	"

Fund Campaign Moves Along at Steady Pace

By Reba Aubrey
Fund Campaign Manager

Twelve branches of the Socialist Workers Party sent in payments last week totaling $969 which kept the $18,000 Organization, Press and Defense Fund pretty much on schedule. Thru February 13 the scoreboard shows $7,889 collected — 44 per cent of the national quota.

Youngstown branch still tops the scoreboard with 100 per cent, but **Pittsburgh** is racing toward that goal in a bid for first place. According to **Carl,** Director of Pittsburgh's local campaign, "the comrades are driving hard to make more than 100 per cent."

Buffalo and **Newark** branches tied for third place with 64 per cent.

A $61 payment from **St. Paul-Minneapolis** boosted the Twin Cities to fourth place on the scoreboard with 52 per cent.

New York is ahead of schedule with 48 per cent and **New Haven** is right up to the minute with 46 per cent.

Comrade **Alma** of **Philadelphia** writes: "We were sorry we could not make a payment last week, but we hope this $68 will partly make up for it." This payment puts Philadelphia within a hair's breadth of being on schedule.

Sally Conti, newly elected Director of **Boston's** fund campaign, was "very pleased to send in such a large amount" in her first letter. The $68 payment gave Boston quite a boost — from 29 to 42 per cent.

Flint branch chalked up a big gain during the week. A $70 payment shot their score up to 42 per cent. Comrade **Jessie** remarks that the Flint comrades miss Sol and Genora, branch members who are temporarily away, but that the branch "will try to make them proud of us by going to the top."

The branches behind schedule — those on the lower half of the scoreboard — are making a determined effort to catch up.

Comrade **Marietta** sent in $174 for **Detroit.** She points out that this "payment still does not bring us up to date, but we're putting the heat on ourselves to speed up. There is no doubt that we'll complete our quota on time."

Comrade **Clara** of **Seattle** writes: "We're trying to step up our fund campaign payments and will shoot them in to you. We'll get out of that cellar yet!"

Friends of the Socialist Workers Party in the south contributed liberally to the fund this week. **Ruth J.** of **New Orleans** sent a second $5 payment on her $20 pledge. A **group of friends** closer to the Mason-Dixon Line sent in their fourth contribution, making a total paid to date of $232. **Rose** and **John,** still farther north, mailed in $10, asking that it "go toward helping out the fund."

$18,000 FUND SCOREBOARD

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
Youngstown	$ 500	$ 500	**100**
Pittsburgh	150	130	87
Buffalo	1,000	636	64
Newark	700	447	64
St. Paul-Minneapolis	1,000	522	52
New York	5,000	2,400	48
New Haven	100	46	46
Philadelphia	600	271	45
Boston	550	229	42
Flint	375	159	42
Milwaukee	150	56	37
Oakland	250	90	36
Toledo	50	18	36
Allentown	75	25	33
Chicago	700	216	31
San Francisco	1,500	450	30
Seattle	400	121	30
Detroit	1,750	492	28
Cleveland	300	80	27
Los Angeles	2,600	695	27
Akron	150	35	23
St. Louis	100	20	20
West Virginia	25	0	0
General		252	—
Total through Feb. 13	**$18,000**	**$7,889**	**.44**

THE MILITANT ARMY

Ethel P. and **George R.** of the **New York Youth** scored encouraging sales of **The Militant** at two Stalinist-sponsored gatherings last week. At a meeting where W. E. B. du Bois spoke, Ethel and George used the slogans: "Read the Leninist program for Peace," and "Don't Be Afraid of the Truth — Read **The Militant.**" At a meeting of the Greenwich Village Council for Peaceful Alternatives, they tried, "Only World Socialism Can Bring Peace," "Disarmament Programs Can't Stop War." "Read the Socialist Answer to War."

"One young fellow discussed our program with us," Ethel and George report. "A young girl attracted by the discussion, asked what party we represented, and bought a paper, saying, 'I'll get that. It sounds interesting.' Another girl said, 'Well, I don't believe it, but I'll read it and see.' One very young boy bought a copy of **Fourth International,** theoretical magazine of American Trotskyism, with the remark, 'Sure, I really want to learn about this.' And one girl who bought a paper told us, 'I'll get it for my father. It's right up his alley.'"

In two hours work Ethel and George sold **15 Militants** and **5 FIs** which was not bad in view of the efforts of the Stalinist "hacks" to discourage people at their meetings from buying Trotskyist literature.

Literature Agent **T. S.** of **Seattle** reports good results at a mass meeting sponsored by the Longshoremen. "Despite the fact that the Stalinists were passing out free literature there, we sold **16 Militants** and two copies of **Fourth International.**

"The following Sunday, 11 of us went out to a working class and Negro neighborhood where the Socialist Workers Party had become known during the election campaign. We sold 31 **Militants,** 12 copies of the pamphlet **Welfare State or Socialism?** and a subscription to the paper. We were well received and almost everyone sold out in a very short time."

L. B. Courts of **Sharonville,** Ohio, on renewing his subscription and ordering extra copies of **The Militant** for his friends, writes about the evils of capitalism and the need for socialism. The war in Korea, he says, is only another example of the consequences of capitalist misrule. "It is our turn now to create a better world."

H. B. P. of **New York** writes, "I read your fine paper with considerable interest and enthusiasm and support the Socialist Workers candidates yearly."

Many thanks to **F. K.** of **Los Angeles** for a contribution of $1, and to **C. M.** of **Detroit** who sent an extra dollar contribution with her renewal to the **Militant** and **Fourth International.**

PROBE LINKS AUTO FIRM TO GANGSTER TERRORISM

(Continued from Page 1)

at the Ford Motor company in 1937.

"We believe," he declared, "that law-enforcement agencies were not really interested in solving some of the crimes committed against our unions, because they were being paid off by the organized rackets.

A DANGER TODAY

"We believe firmly that criminal elements connected with gambling and other forms of racketeering are still used to this day in union-busting activities."

This belief does not square with the oft-repeated idea of the Reuther-Mazey union leadership that the unions and the companies can live in peace, by "collaboration" and peaceful collective bargaining.

Today the illusion of collaboration between labor and management is exploded by the facts about anti-labor violence used by the auto tycoons.

A COMPANY OFFICIAL TALKS

George N. Lilygren, acting controller of the Briggs company until 1945, gave revealing testimony before the Kefauver committee.

"Renda, without experience in the scrap business, was given the contract for one of the plants. I protested, but was told the order came from higher up. I concluded there was some connection between Renda and the company's relief from labor troubles. It was not a contract with Renda, really. **It was an arrangement.** We had a cluster of wildcat strikes before that arrangement. We got relief from labor troubles."

Dean Robinson, president of the Briggs company, squirmed on the stand under questioning by John Burling, Kefauver Committee Counsel. Burling stated:

"Mr. Frey, who is described by you as a good friend (and who hired Perrone under the same phony contract set-up to do anti-union work at his stove works) has told you that he had been successful in labor problems by giving Perrone the scrap metal contract, and that he suggested Perrone's son-in-law. It's a pretty sorry state of affairs if American industry has to deal with hoodlums and men in the underworld to carry on business."

Burling apeared to be so outraged by the murderous tactics of the Briggs company that he blurted out, "I am a stockholder in Briggs, but I don't care about the reputation of the company. I'm going to put my stock on the market. I do not care to associate with the company if that's the way you run it."

"IMPARTIAL" UMPIRE

An important by-product of the committee disclosures was the role played by the late James F. Dewey, a veteran "mediator" in the Detroit area, and a so-called "impartial" umpire hired jointly by the Briggs company and the UAW-CIO. At the secret 1945 Grand Jury hearings on the union beatings run by Judge Murphy he testified against the Briggs Local and its members.

Some of his testimony runs as follows: "Four or five years ago the company was having a lot of trouble. . . . a lot of strikes. It was a disgrace, Mazey was the head of the Local then, and he was just impossible to deal with." This from the "impartial" umpire!

Dewey described Genora Dollinger as a "thorn in the company's side and a trouble maker." In short, he testified before the Grand Jury to smear the union and whitewash the company. His testimony was intended to justify the beating of Genora Dollinger and the other unionists.

COMPANY REAL CRIMINAL

The findings of the committee, hasty and inadequate as they are, conclusively demonstrate the falsity of the charges made by employers that the inner-politics of the union were responsible for the beatings and shootings. This slander was intended to hide the real criminals.

But still, despite the committee's revelations no law-enforcement agencies have taken any steps against the real criminals . . . the auto companies and their gangster hirelings! The UAW-CIO must demand immediate indictment of the auto-baron criminals.

Benefits of Imperialism

Out of every 100 children who enter the first grade in Puerto Rico, only 53 reach the fourth grade, 27 the seventh grade, 16 the ninth, and 10 the 12th. Of the original 100, only two enter a university.

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TROTSKY

On The Struggles of the Colored Peoples

"The movement of the colored races against their imperialist oppressors is one of the most important and powerful movements against the existing order and therefore calls for the complete unconditional and unlimited support on the part of the proletariat of the white race."

— Leon Trotsky

LENIN

Labor in Washington

For several months top labor officials have been lobbying in Washington for a policy-making post in the war-planning set-up.

But the war mobilization overlord, industrialist Charles E. Wilson, has contemptuously rejected their demands. He confines the labor appointees to jobs as advisors, researchers, economists and third line administrators.

Wilson is able to insult the representatives of 16 million organized workers because he knows they can be had at bargain prices. They may complain about the Big Business monopoly of Washington posts. They may protest against the wage freeze, runaway prices, soak-the-poor taxation — but they won't do anything about it.

The union bureaucracy is committed in advance to the war program. They support the imperialist intervention in Korea and are already propagandizing for World War III. Since they support the all-out war plans, they can only complain mildly about its consequences, as a concession to the bitterly resentful rank and file.

The reckless scorn of the American ruling class for the workers upon whom they heap the heaviest share of war costs is predicated upon the spinelessness of the labor leadership.

Walter Reuther, Philip Murray, William Green and their fellow bureaucrats state that the "Equality of Sacrifice" program during World War II was a fraud, and that "genuine" sharing of sacrifice is necessary now. But they were the chief salesmen for the fake "equal sacrifice" program before, and they're selling the same hogwash all over again.

If a labor leader is placed in a top policy post it will not be aimed merely at satisfying the union officials, but at quieting the resentment of the workers against the whole war program, by creating the illusion that labor has something to say about it.

The workers do not want posts for a few labor agents of imperialism. They want an end to the discriminatory capitalist war program which is undermining their living standards, destroying their civil rights, and threatening world catastrophe.

If the union officials were serious about their criticism of the wage-price-tax-profits grab, they would organize a great delegated Congress of Labor in Washington, with thousands of elected local union representatives. Such a mobilization of the workers' genuine spokesmen would quickly tame the arrogant profiteers who dominate the government.

A Congress of Labor, by adopting a militant program and backing it up with economic power and independent political action, would lay the basis for a fighting defense of labor's rights.

Big Business Gangsterism

Since the growth of the mass production unions in the U.S. labor leaders and company propagandists have been peddling the myth that labor and capital can live harmoniously together, advancing their mutual interests.

The daily experience of workers on the production line, as they are mercilessly exploited and subjected to the hated speed-up, mocks the hypocritical doctrine of class collaboration.

The revelations of the Kefauver Investigating Committee in Detroit which exposed the Briggs Manufacturing Company management as murderous gangsters who blackjack workers in their attempt to destroy the union, throws a powerful light on the realities of the class war.

Since the earliest beginnings of the labor movement the American capitalist class has used guns, bombs, tear gas, spies and provocateurs to prevent workers from organizing and winning the status of free men in industry.

This violent ruling class has not changed. The powerful CIO has forced the Fords and the Chryslers and the billionaire industrialists to make concessions. But they fight on. They use their primary weapon, the capitalist government, against labor's huge organizations; as in the recent walkout of the railroad workers, they beat the workers into submission with the power of the state.

But that does not mean the industrialists have stopped using individual violence. They continue to assault and murder workers; thousands have been shot down in cold blood on picket lines; the Detroit attack upon the Briggs unionists, now traced directly to the company, is one of thousands of such crimes.

The Briggs management should be tried, convicted and sent to prison as common thugs. That should be the demand of the United Automobile Workers.

But what is more important, workers must learn from this exposure of the vicious character of "respectable" industrialists, that the struggle between capital and labor is irreconcilable.

The class war will go on claiming its victims until the rapacious capitalist exploiters are expropriated by the workers.

Two Kinds of Justice

The railroad workers have just had another bitter lesson on the nature of justice under capitalism. They have learned that there are two kinds of justice — one for the underpaid wage-earners who keep the trains running and one for billionaire railway owners who ride in private cars and whose hardest "toil" is clipping dividend coupons.

Two dramatic events, occurring within the same week, have served to drive this lesson home; the government's smashing of the railroad strike by Army command and federal "contempt" convictions; and the terrible wreck on the lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad corporation, the Woodbridge, N. J., derailment that took 84 lives and injured 500.

When the low-paid, over-worked railroad workers, driven to desperation by a two-year government run-around, go out on strike, the full power of the capitalist movement is hurled against them. Truman slanders them as unpatriotic and "like a bunch of Russians." A Chicago federal judge slaps a "contempt" conviction on them and fines the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen $25,000. Federal judges in other cities refuse to postpone other "contempt" trials. They are whipped back to work at forced labor under military command by an Army ultimatum.

But the railroad corporation that is responsible for mudering hundreds of passengers and crewmen and injuring more than a thousand in a series of ghastly accidents does not receive even a censure from Truman. The Interstate Commerce Commission rushes in to "investigate" and give it a whitewash. The government keeps paying out juicy mail subsidies. No one in Washington yells "unpatriotic" at the Pennsylvania Railroad because its decrepit equipment and lack of safety devices is committing real sabotage of rail transport.

And certainly Truman and no other capitalist politician would dream of calling for criminal prosecution of billionaires like Pierre S. du Pont and Richard King Mellon who are on the PRR's board of directors and make its policies that place profits before safety. The Justice Department's anti-trust suit against the du Pont-General Motors empire has been stalled since June 1949 and is now being postponed indefinitely in the "interests of the war effort."

True justice will not prevail until the profiteers who are mismanaging and wrecking the railroad system are kicked out of control and the workers who keep the system going take over. The nationalization of the railroads under workers control has become a burning immediate need.

George Washington--American Revolutionist

By Harry Frankel

Two hundred and nineteen years ago this week George Washington was born; forty years later he was to draw his sword under the Elm of Cambridge in defense of the first American Revolution.

We are told today that Washington was an "aristocratic type," that he was a slaveholder, one of the richest men of the colonies. All this is true, but none of these facts account for his place in history.

Washington and other Patriot leaders grouped around him were big property owners — but they were among the foremost radicals of their day. These rebellious colonial capitalists of the Eighteenth Century differ from the modern imperialists as day from night.

WASHINGTON TO TRUMAN

In fact, the history of the United States since Washington's time is the history of the transformation of the capitalist class from a revolutionary into a completely reactionary force. With American intervention in Korea, George Washington's class has completed its evolution: From organizing and leading a colonial movement against foreign oppression it has become the head of the forces attempting to crush the colonial upheavals in Asia.

Harry Truman has now taken the place of King George III. His pro-consul, MacArthur, ravages the shores of Asia, a modern Cornwallis in search of his final Yorktown. Chiang Kai-shek and assorted Benedict Arnolds wait in the wings. And on Feb. 22, the modern counterparts of George III, Cornwallis and Benedict Arnold pause to celebrate Washington's birthday.

This celebration is not without its difficulties. For the deeds of Washington and his revolutionary generation are the source of deepest embarrassment to their corrupt modern offspring. Like children ashamed of their parents, they attempt to conceal the true character of their ancestors and to create false histories for them. Out of this need of our present rulers, have sprung the myths that hide Washington and his associates from clear view.

A FALSE HISTORY

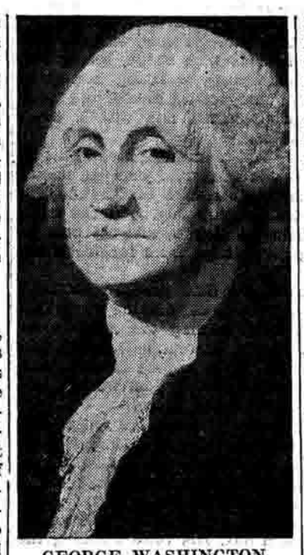
Our revolution, the legend goes, was not a "real" revolution, but a gentlemanly affair undertaken by respectable people. The leaders of this revolution were not "subversives" but "patriots." We had no "mobs," only disciplined armies. The mighty demonstration in 1773 that shook the colonies, the very uprising that precipitated the revolutionary crisis, has come down to us in the textbooks as a Boston "tea party." Its organizer, Sam Adams, the first professional revolutionist of American history, has been all but obliterated from memory. It is plain that when Lenin pointed out that the revolutionists of one day are tranformed into "harmless icons" of the next, he was not only referring to proletarian revolutionists in Europe, Karl Marx and Frederich Engels in particular.

GENUINE REVOLUTION

All these myths to the contrary, our independence movement was a mass popular uprising. It was no more subversive than the abominated "subversives" of today. It had the supreme legitimacy of the people in revolt against tyranny; the legitimacy of the struggle to preserve and extend freedom against brute oppression; the inalienable right to abolish outlived institutions and rulers and lead the people on the road to national unity and progress.

The American Revolution, like the French, had its Jacobins, its Convention, its **sans-culottes**, and its revolutionary army.

Washington is one of the great figures of our national past for one reason and one reason only: He was the organizer of victory; the leader of the ragged and despised armies of a great revolution. Nothing he did before or after that can give him so lasting a place in memory.



GEORGE WASHINGTON

Before this central fact, all the myths of the "iconized" Washington fade away. A revolutionary army cannot be led to victory by a cowardly compromiser; and Washington was not, in fact, such a man in the revolutionary period. His deliberate gesture at the Second Continental Congress in 1775, his significant appearance at the sessions in full militia uniform, did more than many a fiery speech to steel the Congress for the terrible tasks from which many of its members shrank.

PRESERVE THE ARMY

Nor was Washington a man of "limited" intelligence, who conquered solely by the power of his "moral" and "patriotic" superiority. If by "intelligence" is understood the mental capacity required for the work at hand, then Washington's was certainly the highest intelligence in the camp of the American Revolution. His cardinal military doctrine was that the Revolution depended, not upon the holding of this or that piece of territory, but upon the continued existence of the Revolutionary Army. He was justified, and all critics and opponents confuted, by the ultimate outcome.

It is noteworthy that this military doctrine has become central to the strategy of all modern revolutions that confront powerful imperialist antagonists with inferior material means. The revolutionary armies of Yugoslavia, China, the Philippines, Indo-China and Malaya have discovered upon the soil of the Balkans and Asia the same doctrine that Washington worked out two centuries before in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

But beyond all this, Washington has left a deathless heritage for modern revolutionists who study his deeds. There is a lesson in his character as it displayed itself upon the battlefields of the colonies in the dark and despairing times. Washington left behind one of the outstanding demonstrations of **tenacity** on historical record. We must admire above all else the extraordinary force of will that centered on the one idea: "Preserve the Revolutionary Army!" and upheld it as an obligatory commandment, more precious than wealth or life.

In this respect Washington has more to teach us than many of his more showy associates. Others pondered more, wrote more, spoke more fluently, but few accomplished more than this single-minded man, the "aristocrat" who was able to survive Valley Forge, the slaveholder who could take Thomas Paine to his bosom. Washington's demonstration of tenacity in the face of overwhelming odds lives on to instruct and inspire revolutionists everywhere. **For all revolutionary movements have their Valley Forges, but only those who survive Valley Forge fight on to Yorktown.**

Martin Soderberg--1866-1951

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 11 — A memorial service for Martin Soderberg, who died Feb. 9 at the age of 84, was held here today at SWP headquarters. A glowing tribute to his life and work was paid by his long-time comrade-in-arms, V. R. Dunne.

"Martin Soderberg," said Dunne, "did not pretend to be a theoretician, a writer or a speaker in our movement. But he was, nevertheless, a leader in the best sense of that term. He was punctual, kind, generous, loyal and dependable. He was a great man. Up to his very last moments he never lost confidence in the socialist future of mankind.

"Martin was that kind of rank-and-file militant," continued Dunne, "without which no great struggle can succeed. He can best be likened to a figure such as Kote Zinzadze, Bolshevik organizer in the Caucasus." And here the speaker quoted from an article by Trotsky appearing in **The Militant** of Feb. 15, 1931, an appreciation and evaluation of this great and important, if perhaps relatively unknown figure of the Russian Revolution.

PIONEER COMMUNIST

"I first met Martin in 1918 through Carl Skoglund, who had known him for forty years. Martin was one of the delegates from the Scandinavian Federation who helped to found the American Communist party. Martin became and remained a Bolshevik from the Russian Revolution forward until his death.

"At an age when many men are less robust — he was then in his late sixties — he scraped together some money and bought a coal truck. He hauled coal sometimes for fifteen hours a day in the dead of winter. The truck drivers of Minneapolis came to know and respect him. In 1934, the year of the great drivers' strikes, Martin found his place in these great battles as a rank-and-file leader.

"Martin never had much money. Like many other workers, his income was always meagre. Martin had more than his share of doctor bills. Nevertheless, he always found it possible to give generously to his party. When the weekly **Militant** was launched, Martin contributed one-half of Minneapolis' quota of $200.

A LOVABLE COMRADE

"Martin Soderberg was a lovable comrade and friend. Until the infirmities of age made it physically impossible for him to get about, he never missed a meeting or a party affair. The other comrades tried to show their affection for him by celebrating his birthdays around a special birthday cake."

In 1946, Martin Soderberg drew up a testament of his life and views, which appears elsewhere in these pages. Dunne read the full statement. Grace Carlson read telegrams from his old friend Carl Skoglund and other comrades appraising the contributions of the venerable fighter who has gone from our midst. The service closed appropriately with the singing of the "Internationale."

J. P. Cannon Sends Memorial Message

We shall remember our Comrade Martin as a model militant in the Trotskyist ranks. He worked untiringly for the socialist future. His kindly character and quiet humor endeared him to us, just as his steadfastness and loyalty contributed so much to the party.

We feel his loss keenly. But the example he gave of lifelong service to the cause of labor's emancipation remains to inspire all the younger members of our movement.

James P. Cannon
For the National Committee
Socialist Workers Party.

Navy "Gestapo" Raids Waterfront, Reader Reports

Editor: You are no doubt aware of the screening of longshoremen in San Francisco, but I would like to give you some details.

The Navy's **private** screening program began a full month previous to the Coast Guard's. The Navy's method showed how completely the entire business was aimed at intimidation, terrorization and ultimate destruction of the union.

In the middle of the afternoon, after the longshoremen have been working over six hours — certainly long enough for "saboteurs" among them to blow up the ship! — Navy security police squad cars descend upon the ship from two directions. While the ship is "covered" fore and aft, the men on the Navy's blacklist are ordered from the ship, "disarmed," by having their cargo hooks (a tool of their trade) taken from them, herded into the squad cars and deposited outside the docks.

Their hooks are returned in the following manner. They are told to turn their backs and thereupon the hook is placed in their rear pocket! Then, after treating these workmen like murderous saboteurs, the Navy police tell them to go! As one young Negro longshoreman who was treated in this manner commented: "If I'm that dangerous I should be locked up."

INTIMIDATION

Think of the intimidating effect of this procedure on not only those screened but the men remaining on the job! Who will protest a violation of the union contract? He might be next.

One screened longshoreman worked for the Navy during the last war as a stevedore boss. His crime evidently was that he was fired for refusing to undermine union conditions.

This is what is taking place in San Francisco while Truman and MacArthur are invading Korea to bring "democracy" to the Koreans.

A Longshoreman,
San Francisco, Calif.

LAST TESTAMENT OF A TROTSKYIST

I, Martin Soderberg, residing at the Dayton Rest Home, 327 Oak Grove, Minneapolis, Minnesota, now make the following statement on this day, March 22, 1946:

I was born at Ore, Socken, Helsingland, Sweden, on Nov. 1, 1866. I came to New York City on July 9, 1892. From New York City I travelled to Evansville, Minnesota, at which place I stayed for several months. From Evansville, Minnesota, I went to Phillips, Wisconsin, for a short stay. I came to Minneapolis early in the year 1893. I have resided here since that time.

I entered the employ of the Consolidated Mill Company, a part of the big flour milling industry, shortly after coming to Minneapolis. More than 20 years were spent in this work, most of the time as a machinist, in the shops of the Consolidated Mills. I was promoted from time to time; my work was always satisfactory to my employers.

I took part in organizing and was a charter member of the Millworkers' Union whose membership was made up of all mill employees. This union was broken and I and other workers were blacklisted after a long strike. Various jobs, mostly teaming and truck driving, furnished the means of livelihood for myself and family since that time up to my 70th year when physical disability prevented further work.

I have been a member of the Socialist movement since my earliest youth, always active in the trade unions and in the militant labor movement and a supporter of the opinions of the Marxists within the limits of my ability. I participated in the movements leading to the great October Revolution in Russia in 1917. The Bolsheviks led by Lenin and Trotsky proved for all Marxists and all honest revolutionary workers that this organization and the methods adopted were the only methods and organizational form which could bring a Socialist world to the workers of the world and to all mankind.

I have been a follower of the great traditions created by the Marxists, by Lenin and Trotsky during their lives. I have seen the great work of Lenin endangered by the criminal distortions of the vicious Stalinist bureaucracy that arose in the Soviet Union after Lenin's death. I have attempted in every way possible since the death of Lenin to further the great work led by the Bolshevik Party. I, together with many loyal comrades, have made every effort to continue this work under the leadership of Trotsky, both before he was expelled and since he was banished from the Soviet Union.

I have always believed, and the latest developments in the International labor movement, it seems to me now, have confirmed these opinions, that Trotsky was the true defender of the ideas of Lenin. I have always identified myself with those revolutionary workers and writers who understood this. **I have, during long years, thought that through these great ideas mankind will finally find a way out of this terrible cruel and vicious capitalist order to a Socialist World.**

I have long had the opinion that the last act of a revolutionary worker should be, insofar as that is possible, in accord with the ideas that he has stood for during his active life. **I, therefore, desire that, upon my death, all arrangements for the disposition of my remains and for funeral services be left solely in the hands of Carl Skoglund and/or Vincent Raymond Dunne, or friends that they may designate, and that my remains be cremated. It is my desire that no religious ceremony be permitted in connection with my funeral.**

Signed,

Martin Soderberg

Subscribed and sworn before me this 22nd of May, 1946. Marie C. Forde, Notary Public, Hennepin County, Minn. My Commission Expires Jan. 11, 1953.

Work-injury rates in manufacturing showed a constant upward trend during 1950.

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THE MILITANT

VOLUME XV — MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1951 — NUMBER 8

Democrat Ducks War Debate With Chicago SWP Candidate

Voters in the 5th Ward in this city are beginning to ask, "Why is Merriam afraid to debate Beinin?" Students at the University of Chicago are asking, "What happened to the proposal of the Channing Club and of the Politics Club to arrange a debate between the incumbent Alderman Merriam and his socialist anti-war opponent Irving Beinin?"

The answer is that Beinin who is endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party quickly accepted the offer but Merriam turned tail. Merriam refused to talk about the war. He said he would talk about nothing but, "strictly Ward issues" like parking regulations and street lighting. Merriam said that if he should by accident find himself on the same platform with Beinin, and Beinin started to talk about the war, he "would walk out."

Despite his skillful weaving and dodging Merriam hasn't been able to completely duck the war issue. Beinin's constant hammering on the war question, which is the central issue before the voters today in every election campaign, is forcing Merriam to talk about the war whether he likes it or not. When confronted by anxious voters who want to know where he stands on the war question, he slyly tells them he is "anti-war," but when compelled to make some kind of a public statement under Beinin's pressure, he gives his slick game away.

MERRIAM'S DODGE

In a statement to the **Hyde Park Herald**, Merriam said, "None of us are in a position to know what the next years will bring, but we should and must make sure that we're prepared for whatever may come."

Nowhere in this statement or in any other public statement he has made will you find one single word by Merriam which indicates that he is "anti-war." On the contrary, this statement, like all his weasel-worded statements, merely refrains from openly advocating war and it clearly advocates preparation for war.

His support of the war program is further underlined by his past conduct in the city council where he has supported local measures calculated to carry forward Washington's war-making policies. Instead of fighting against the actions that are bringing us closer to an all-out war, he has been most active in such projects as the building of highways for which the Army is clamoring.

Further proof of Merriam's actual policy on the war is the unqualified editorial endorsement given his candidacy by the **Chicago Sun Times**, one of the most blatant pro-war rags in this city.

BEININ ANTI-WAR STAND

In marked contrast to Merriam's shabby conduct, Beinin has stated in clear and unmistakable language his uncompromising opposition to the war into which the present rulers of the country are plunging the American people. He has stated that **if elected to the City Council, he would introduce a motion that the Council go on record against the war drive and call on the President and the Congress to heed the people's opposition to the war and let the people vote on the question of war or peace. He would call for the permanent organization of a representative committee in the wards to help carry on the struggle against war. He would use the Council as a forum to encourage the extension of such anti-war committees throughout the city and throughout the entire nation.**

It is precisely because of Beinin's frankly stated anti-war program that Merriam refuses to meet him in public debate. Such a debate would quickly and completely expose Merriam's duplicity on the war question.

THE GREAT PROBLEM

Every home in the 5th Ward has already been touched by Truman's "police action," if not through the death of sons and husbands in battle then through the staggering taxes and frozen wages. These may not be strictly ward issues by Merriam's definition, but every other question drops into insignificance before them.

It is an insult for a candidate for political office to refuse to appear on a platform with his opponent before the voters of the Ward and submit to the questions of the voters.

Small wonder then that voters in the 5th Ward are beginning to ask, "Why is Merriam afraid to debate Beinin? What is Merriam trying to hide?"

When Ralph Left

By Theodore Kovalesky

Ralph came to us about a year ago, a shy, inarticulate, sincere kid. And last night he left us, a conscript in the legions of American imperialism.

It seems less in some ways, in others more, than a year. Ralph fitted so well into the organization that his presence never jarred; but he didn't sit quietly in the corners. He was active and always dependable. But I don't want to talk of his daily or weekly record: The Socialist Workers Party is full of good kids who do a fine job without asking any other reward than the knowledge that they are laying the granite foundation stones of tomorrow's socialist society. I only want to talk about last night.

The meeting was a little shorter than usual. The speaker was concluding the last point on the agenda, the educational part of the meeting. I was sitting at the end of the front row, turned half sideways and leaning against the wall. I could see the table centered in the front of the room with the little rostrum set upon it holding the speaker's notes. Behind it stood the speaker, and next to him sat little Rosie Riley, the secretary. Off at one side an old upright piano towered in the corner holding on its flat top a bust of Leon Trotsky that gazed calmly out into the room. On the painted walls slogans had been hung, the largest across the front in huge letters: LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN CAN NEVER EMANCIPATE ITSELF AS LONG AS LABOR WITH A BLACK SKIN IS BRANDED . . . .KARL MARX.

My eyes wandered over these objects and back to the comfortably well-known people who sat on the folding chairs next to me and behind me. "The old familiar things. . . " I thought, and I wondered how many others noticed them.

The speaker was finished. There were a few questions, some discussion, and then, before adjournment, Jerry took the floor. Jerry drew in words the picture of young Ralph just one short year ago, when he came to us, shy and inarticulate, eager and unsophisticated. Jerry took us back with Ralph to the evenings of hard study that followed days of hard work, to the discussions where Ralph had sat bright-eyed, listening, learning, to the gaunt days of the strike when Ralph had stood firm and strong as a man of twice his years, to the bleak winter nights when Ralph had trudged through wind and snow to do his share of the party's work. Through Jerry's voice we passed back through time, we lived that year again side by side with Ralph, seeing him gain poise and knowledge, watching him grow to manhood. Then Jerry called him to the front of the room and presented him with a wrist watch from all of us.

Ralph stood there for a moment, looking at us and began to speak of what that year had meant to him, and as he spoke I knew that he too had been looking, more hungrily than I, at the walls and the chairs and the slogans and the bust of Trotsky, looking hard, to fix them forever in his memory.

Then, with his head held proudly, he said, "There'll be a lot more of us than me going into the Army. But we're coming out again some day! And when we do, there'll be millions following us. . . or else we'll be part of those millions following someone better than we are, and we'll win a socialist world of peace!"

And, listening to him, I heard the roll of distant thunder, the beat of distant drums, saw the watch-fires of our troops, ours, the workers' army of socialism, heard their marching feet, felt the hot, fierce joy of the inevitable victory. . . .

Suddenly, almost by accident, his eyes rested on the velvet watch box. His voice faltered, the resolution fell from his face, and once again he was a very young boy, shaken with a great, wondering gratitude that he should be so loved and admired by these people, these socialist comrades whom he so deeply admired.

And I, and the rest of us too, I think, sat back in the silence before Jerry called for adjournment, filled with a gratitude as great and deep as that which choked Ralph's voice and filled his eyes, thinking, "Out of the working class these youths have come, the best and finest, and thousands are yet to come. For these, tomorrow's leaders, our thanks to the millions who sent them. And on behalf of those toiling millions, thank you, Ralph, our thanks for what you have become in this past year, and, most of all, for what you and all your young comrades will grow to be when our struggle will broaden and flower into the final victory."

A 'Most Effective' Weapon

By Fred Hart

Fire — not explosives or bullets — is the most horrible and devastating weapon used in Korea. The U.S. command's favorite method of warfare is burning people alive. Official communiques gloat sadistically over the frightful results of the use of fire and daily are studded with words like "burned," "flamed," "blazed," "scorched," "seared" and "charred." Front-line press correspondents delight in gruesome descriptions of the effects of this fire-warfare on its victims. Their most frequent and picturesque term is "fried."

This type of warfare is waged mainly with gasoline combined with aluminum naphthenate or aluminum soap which causes the inflammable liquid to jell. Within the past seven months it has added a new word to the common speech—napalm.

Charles Corddry, United Press Aviation writer who spent four months in Korea observing the U.S. air forces in action, writes that "the most effective airborne weapon in use against the enemy is not some ultramodern rocket or missile but a fairly simple mixture called napalm, a jellied gasoline bomb. Napalm is a horrible weapon. There is no escaping a napalm attack. What it does to its victims defies description."

When a napalm bomb hits, says Corddry, "fire starts. The temperature is 1,500 to 2,000 degrees. In seconds, the flame burns everything within its reach and, because it consumes all oxygen in the immediate area, suffocates as well as burns its victims. Napalm, being jellied, clings to whatever it hits or splashes upon. Its victims usually are killed in the positions they were in when hit. Sometimes they are suffocated without being burned."

But not all its victims die immediately. "Some North Korean napalm victims who had escaped death, at least temporarily, were brought to an Allied evacuation station in Taegu. The sight was incredible, ghastly." He did not fail to add that one napalm bomb "fries the people" anywhere within 'an area 275 feet long and 80 feet wide with searing flames."

Corddry's article, dated Feb. 10 from Washington casually notes also that "dispatches yesterday told how the Korean town of Anyang was wiped out by napalm attack."

One of the dispatches he refers to was by George Barrett, **N. Y. Times** correspondent. It is datelined, "With Special Task Force, North of Anyang, Korea, Feb. 8." He gives an eye-witness account of what one napalm attack did to the "enemy."

"This armored column today took a little hamlet north of Anyang. . . A napalm raid hit the village three or four days ago . . . nowhere in the village have they buried the dead because there is nobody left to do so." The only one he saw alive was one old woman "dazedly hanging up some clothes in a blackened courtyard filled with the bodies of four members of her family."

"The inhabitants throughout the village and in the fields," he reports further, "were caught and killed and kept the exact postures they had held when the napalm struck — a man about to get on his bicycle, fifty boys and girls playing in an orphanage, a housewife strangely unmarked, holding in her hand a page torn from a Sears-Roebuck catalogue crayoned at mail order number 3,811,294 for a $2.98 'bewitching bed jacket — coral.' There must be almost 200 dead in the tiny hamlet."

Children playing in an orphanage . . . a housewife yearning for a "bed jacket — coral." A "most effective weapon" indeed, napalm. Truly it has become the supreme symbol of U.S. imperialist "liberation."

The Nimitz Commission

By Emmett Moore

Truman has set up another "loyalty" body — this time it is a commission to investigate the loyalty procedures, national and state. It is hard to keep tab on just how many such federal bodies there are now. Surely, not less than half a dozen. There is the House Un-American Committee and its twin in the Senate; there is the Subversive Activities Control Board (set up under the McCarran-Kilgore Act) plus several others, plus state and local bodies, not to mention the FBI. And now comes the decree setting up the Commission on Internal Security and Individual Rights. And it ostensibly comes in response to the mounting protest of organized labor, many outstanding liberal and Negro groups.

Can it be that at long last a trend is finally under way to safeguard, even in a limited way, our basic freedoms? Assuredly, this is overdue. But, in this case, it would be a grave error to jump to such a conclusion.

Whenever Truman undertakes another one of his pious offerings to the altar of liberty, it is necessary to hold on to one's nose and do a little probing. In this instance, we need only probe the caliber of the chief appointee. The appointment of Fleet Admiral Nimitz as chairman of this new commission suffices to expose the whole shabby pretense of "investigating" the ways and means of protecting civil rights.

None other than Sen. McCarran has hailed Truman's appointee as a man of "high caliber," with whom he is willing, nay eager, to cooperate. This is the same McCarran who sponsored the worst anti-democratic law in U.S. history and who boasts of his warm cooperation with Franco and Chiang.

What can one expect from the Nimitz Commission? Why, just about what Franco's pals in this country expect. The admiral may know how to give orders to swab the deck, paint smokestacks and polish the brass, but, as every ex-sailor knows, when you join the Navy democracy is something you leave behind. Every admiral knows you don't eat democracy or wear it, but what he is really expert at is knowing how to swear at it, in good salty language, and how to trample on it with good seafaring boots.

The Admiral's commission, like Truman's other boards and committees, was set up to distract public attention from Truman himself while he and the witch-hunters continue their assaults against the freedom of the American people, with an occasional assist, when needed, from the Admiral.

No. Our liberties and tradition of freedom cannot be defended by any boards, least of all by the Admiral Nimitz Commission. The real defense is in the hands of the people who dearly cherish the conquests of our revolutionary ancestors. The surest guarantee that our rights will not be destroyed is the ever-rising protest against the witch-hunt by the people through their representative organizations.

Short Subjects

HIS NAME IS MUD — In Alhambra, California, attorney Rolland H. Truman, assailed his cousin Harry Truman, "Frankly," he said, "the leadership in the White House has sunk to such a low level that I have been tempted to go to court and have my name changed in protest over the mess Harry is making of our country."

* * *

GI GYP INSURANCE — After termination of their service GI insurance of $10,000 will be transferred to private insurance groups. To take care of this addition to their $25 billion empire, the N. Y. State Legislature passed a bill recently to enable them to invest their surplus in high yield common stock. This means the insurance companies are now allowed to gamble premiums on the open market.

* * *

WAR IS HELL — Major General Charles A. Willoughby, head of intelligence on the staff of the Supreme Commander in Japan, is now engaged in writing the memoirs of General MacArthur.

* * *

DAVE BECK BEATEN — Workers at the Boeing aircraft plant in Seattle voted 9,939 to 1,789 for the Aero Mechanic Union, IAM, dealing a resounding blow to the strikebreaking Beck machine which asked the workers to vote for no union.

Seattle SUP Militants Are Vindicated

By A. Saylor

SEATTLE, Feb. 8 — **In a dramatic climax to a three-day trial witnessed by hundreds of local maritime workers, ten seamen ousted more than a year ago from the Sailors Union of the Pacific, AFL, were ordered reinstated last week.**

Superior Judge Theodore S. Turner ruled the expulsion of the ten crew members of the M/S Island Mail void. His decision on their behalf bitterly censured union officials and SUP headquarters in San Francisco for their undemocratic procedures.

The court said the accused seamen were not advised of the charges against them, as required by the SUP's constitution, and were not given written notice of their trial or hearing.

"From the evidence offered here," the judge concluded, "I seriously question whether there was a trial or hearing."

CONSTITUTION VIOLATED

Judge Turner ruled the ten men were expelled "in direct violation of the fundamental constitution of this same union. . . . " He went on to compare the seamen's ouster to Nazi Germany "where they loaded carloads of Jews to Poland in the dead of winter. Probably Hitler, too, thought this was necessary in order for his system to survive."

Agreeing with the ten men's counsel, the judge stated that the evidence showed no written charges were posted or filed at a union meeting at which they were present, as required by SUP constitution. Nor were copies mailed to them. They were tried in absentia, in San Francisco, while they were overseas aboard their ship.

The entire M/S Island Mail gang was ordered expelled by the Lundeberg machine at a meeting in San Francisco on Dec. 12, 1949. The action was in complete violation of the constitution. The crew was ordered off the ship and told to go to San Francisco to stand trial. They were informed that they were to be tried on the charge of giving money to **The Defender**, a newspaper being published in Seattle in support of John Mahoney, an SUP sailor ordered expelled in July 1949 for asking a question at a union meeting.

The Island Mail crew refused to leave their ship. Their jobs were put on the board, making them available to other sailors, but despite severe unemployment at the time, the other seamen, backing up the crew, refused to take any of the jobs.

The action against the Island Mail crew was part of Harry Lundeberg's high-handed action against hundreds of SUP members who supported the Mahoney Case.

The ten men involved in the court case resorted to this type of action only after every union avenue of presenting their grievances was closed to them.

12 Year Old Girl Backs RR Striker

The following letter was sent to the **Minneapolis Star** by 12 year old Janice Caulombe, daughter of a railroad worker, defending her dad during the strike:

"You make it sound as though those men (switchmen) are mean and dirty and have no right to strike. Well, I think they do. . . . The President said something about merit. Well, the railroad does not do anything about it. My dad has worked 15 years. He doesn't drink. He doesn't miss work or come home late. More than once he has saved another man's life. Don't you think that is worth something? Why don't you try to see their side of it, too, and put in a good word for them with the public? At least don't make it sound like they're mean men, because I don't think they are. I live with one and I think he's pretty nice."

What does little Janice think now that Truman and the army brass have bludgeoned her father back to work?

Company Thugs Did It

Senate probers have uncovered evidence that Briggs Mfg. Co. employed gangsters to beat up auto unionists. Genora Dollinger, one of the victims, is shown above in hospital after she was assaulted several years ago. Her husband Sol is comforting her. She now urges that the company officials be tried and put in jail. (See story on Page 1.)

FREE AFRICA PARTY SCORES SMASHING ELECTION VICTORY

The revolt of colonial peoples which has burst into flame in Asia is beginning to smolder in Africa. Dramatic proof of the independence sentiment was given on Feb. 8 by the first general elections ever held in British West African Gold Coast colony.

The Convention People's Party, whose main plank is the end of the 100-year British imperialist rule, won 34 out of 38 popularly elected seats in the Parliament.

This victory will not give the people of the Gold Coast parliamentary control since 46 seats are filled by British appointment rather than by democratic election. Nonetheless, the demonstration of the power of the independence movement is bound to stimulate the fight for freedom.

The Gold Coast Colony is larger in area than Great Britain and has a population of over 4,000,000. British imperialists have grown rich on the exploitation of its people and its resources, especially gold, manganese and cocoa.

In January 1948 demands for self-government led to a general strike. Frightened by the determination of the Gold Coast masses, the British scheduled the first general elections as a concession. The leader of the CPP, Kwame Nkrumah, in prison during the election, won a seat in parliament by an overwhelming majority. He was released after the victory.

Appalled by the election results, the British and U.S. Big Business press is painting the whole affair as an example of "Russian propaganda" effectiveness on "ignorant" Africans. But the truth is that in Africa, as well as Asia, the oppressed millions are stirring under the yoke of imperialism and will fight fiercely for independence.

The fight against foreign domination is spreading through Africa. The anti-imperialist Istaqual movement in Morocco, the People's Party of Algeria and the Neo-Destour party of Tunisia have grown to mass organizations demanding complete independence.

The Militant hails the victory of the CPP in the British Gold Coast elections, as well as the growth of the anti-imperialist African parties. They, together with the Asian masses, will fight and win independence, in alliance with the workers of all lands.

Beinin, Anti-War Candidate, Says "Bring GIs Home"

Irving Beinin, socialist anti-war candidate for alderman in the Fifth Ward of Chicago, said in a statement today, **"Truman's war in Korea has opened the eyes of the masses of the American workers. There is a rising popular opposition against the foreign policy of both the Democratic and Republican leadership in the government today.**

"The overwhelming majority of the American people want the troops to get out of Korea. This sentiment is manifested by the heavy anti-administration vote in the recent elections; by the hundreds of thousands of letters sent to Congressmen protesting the war policy.

"Opposition to the war is further demonstrated by reports like that in the Chicago Daily News of Feb. 7 which analyzed 110 letters received from readers expressing their opinions on the present war policy. Not one letter supported the war in Korea. They all called for a change in government leaders and foreign policy.

"Neither the Democrats nor the Republicans offer a program to stop the war. These capitalist parties disagree only on war strategy. Both are trying to drag the American people into war against their will. Capitalism breeds war; and no capitalist party can prevent war.

"Only a program and leadership aiming at a socialist reconstruction of society can stop the war, bring the troops home and guarantee peace, freedom and economic security to all the people.

"Only the Socialist Workers Party presents that program and that leadership in this country.

"If elected, I will fight for that socialist, anti-war program in the Chicago City Council. I will raise the demand to bring all the American troops back home and let the peoples of the world decide their own affairs.

"I will fight to remove the staggering tax burden, knock out the wage freeze and halt the military draft. I will fight for a program to use the vast forces and resources of our great country to improve the welfare of the people."

GOVERNMENT BLACKLIST DEPRIVES MARITIME WORKERS OF JOB RIGHTS

By E. Harris

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9 — Hundreds of militant unionists are being victimized and thrown out of their jobs in the government's current drive to establish an official blacklist in the maritime industry.

The Magnuson Act has put the American merchant marine under virtual control of the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard is conducting a vast purge of the industry under the banner of "screening out subversives."

UNION MAIN TARGET

Main targets of the purge are two West Coast unions, the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards. These unions have been branded as "communist-dominated" by the government and its labor lieutenants. Last year they were expelled from the CIO.

The ILWU and the MCS have fought a delaying action against the purge. The other unions in the maritime industry have completely accepted the principle of screening.

Abetted by virtually all of the union officials, the Coast Guard boards the ships and denies any man on their list or on the company's list the right to sail. The victimized seaman is not allowed to face the Coast Guard screening team, which operates behind **closed doors, strictly hush-hush.** He is given no explanation except that he has been judged a "poor security risk." He is ordered off the ship. But the matter does not always end here.

"Screened" seamen who have sought employment ashore say that the blacklist hounds them from job to job. Within a few days or a week, the victim is told that his "services are no longer required."

LONGSHORE BLACKLIST

The ILWU longshoremen face similar problems. The Coast Guard has set up a security pass system for all military docks. Longshoremen not qualifying for these passes are excluded from such docks. The next step is to extend the system to all docks — even docks that handle such vital "security cargo" as pineapple from Hawaii or coffee from Brazil — thus forcing all blacklisted men from the industry.

In San Francisco alone about 300 longshoremen have been screened, according to the ILWU Local 10 Bulletin. This is one out of 20. Not only alleged members of radical parties, but every union militant, and even members with records of militancy only in the dim past, have been screened.

The ILWU caucus, recently held at Longview, Washington, agreed to "comply" with the government's security program. After giving up the basic fight without a struggle, they hastened to demand "the right of screened members to work on commercial jobs outside of closed areas." The membership will soon become aware that the so-called "security program" is nothing but a blacklist which aims to drive every good union man out of the maritime industry.

BIG PROTEST VOTE

The caucus program is now being voted on in a coastwise referendum. Thus far it has carried by a three to one vote. However, in San Francisco, hardest hit by screening, the vote was 1997 "yes" to 1224 "no." This is a substantial protest vote against complying with the security program.

At the Longview caucus, all of San Francisco's delegates had voted to comply. Before a Local 10 membership meeting preceding the balloting, Harry Bridges, International ILWU President, reversed his stand and called for a "no" vote. Bridges' stand, forced by vigorous rank and file opposition, accounts for the large "no" vote. It might well indicate also that the government's attack on the powerful ILWU does not have clear sailing ahead.

Unionism Pays

Union contracts now provide pension and "health and welfare" plans for at least 7,650,000 workers, according to a Bureau of Labor Statistics survey.

Monopoly's Reward

Rate increases since the war have boosted revenue raked in by the Bell Telephone System **$360 million a year.**